



Bureau of State Laboratory Services
Office of Laboratory Licensure, Certification & Training

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DATE: May 22, 1995
SUBJECT: Information Update #11

1. Mr. John Hsueh, Chemist I, City of Phoenix laboratory, pointed out to us that there is a unit's problem with units in our formula in item No. 5, in the Information Update, dated April 28, 1995. It should be as follows in order for the units to cancel properly.

mg/L x Final volume of processed sample in **Liters**

Weight of the wet sample in **KG** x Percent solids

2. Q. What is the acceptance criteria for Continuing Calibration Verification (CCV) for EPA method 8020?

A. EPA method 8020 is a packed column method for the analyses of BTEX. The Table 3 in the method specifies the acceptance criteria for CCV, which is set wider for the packed column analyses. However if a capillary column is being used for the analysis of BTEX, then the method 8021A, which is a capillary column method, must be followed and the acceptance criteria for CCV in the method is set much tighter. The method 8021A refers to the method 8000 for the acceptance criteria, which is +/- 15%. This was conveyed to our Office through a phone conversation with Barry Lesnik of USEPA, Office of Solid Waste.

3. Q. Since 8010B is the current updated version of 8010, does that mean the laboratories cannot use 8010 anymore.

A. The ADHS Environmental Rule, that is currently being enforced, has 8010 as an approved method for halogenated volatiles compounds. The Rule is in the process of being revised and the revised Rule will no longer have 8010 as one of the approved methods. Until that Rule is revised, the laboratories can continue to use 8010. As mentioned above in the item #2, EPA is withdrawing 14 packed column methods within a year.

4. Q. Is it necessary to generate a calibration standard curve prior to doing Method of Standard Additions (MSA) for the "series of addition method"?

A. Yes, as per the method 7000A, for the results of MSA to be valid, following is one of the limitations that must be taken into consideration:

The slope of the MSA plot should be nearly the same as the slope of the standard curve. If the slope is significantly different (greater than 20%), caution should be exercised.

However, for the drinking water and the wastewater samples, Ted Martin of USEPA, recommends doing "single addition method" rather than "series addition method" due to the many variables involved. If the curve and the standards have been verified, but the spikes are unacceptable, then the matrix interference can be presumed. Such results must be flagged before reported.

5. We received a memo from EPA Region IX with regards to "Status of Monitoring Triggers Rule Activities" for setting new monitoring triggers for drinking water SOCs, VOCs and IOCs. EPA is considering using PQL as a monitoring trigger. Mary Ann Feige of USEPA, Cincinnati, is requesting help from laboratories in acquiring real data for precision and accuracy determinations near the PQL. EPA needs data on low level standards or spiked reagent water acquired while running routine samples (not acquired while running MDLs or from a single day precision). This would be at least 12 data points for each analyte per method generated over a month by spiking 2-5 times per week. If you are interested in providing some data to EPA on DW methods, please contact Prabha Acharya (602-255-3454 or 1-800-372-3454) for a copy of the complete package of the memo or you can contact Mary Ann Feige directly at 513-569-7944.
6. ELAC (Environmental Laboratory Advising Committee) Technical Subcommittee has developed a guidance document on "Sampling VOCs in Soil" for methanolic preservation in the field. It was presented to the ELAC committee members on May 11, 1995 for their review. After an approval by the ELAC committee, the draft document will be presented to ADEQ for their review. If ADEQ finds the document to be appropriate, it will be adapted by them and all the sections of ADEQ will require field methanolic preservation for soil samples for VOC analyses. In the meantime, UST section of ADEQ requires (as of March 20, 1995) the 72 hours extraction time on soil samples for the VOC analyses for the site investigation to determine the extent of contamination. This 72 hour criteria is not required for remediation. We will keep you updated on the progress.
7. Millipore Corporation is scheduling a FREE Immunoassay Certification class in Phoenix, the week of June 26, 1995. This half a day course, consists of the history and the principles of immunoassay, product formats, sample preparation, available tests kits, regulatory status of test methods and hands on training workshop. If you are interested in attending, please call Karen Babicki at 1-800-645-5476 ext. 6636 for details.
8. "How Safe is Your Laboratory", a seminar is being broadcast live via satellite on June 13, 1995 (1:00 pm to 3:00 pm EDT), which is cosponsored by the ACS Department of Continuing Education and Chemical Health & Safety magazine. The registration fee is \$65.00 per person (\$55.00 if registered by May 15, 1995). It is being held at, City of Phoenix, Fire Department, 2430 S. 22nd Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85009. If interested contact Carol Valverde at 800-227-5558.
9. If you have any questions regarding the Updates, please call Prabha Acharya, Program manager, Technical Resources and Training, at the above number.

THIS MESSAGE AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT UPON REQUEST, BY CONTACTING: Wesley Press AT (602) 542-0357

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